

Remarks:

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant hereby elects Group I, claims 1, 13, 15, and 21, with traverse. It is respectfully submitted that at least Group II should be combined with Group I, as there will be no undue burden upon the Examiner to search and examine the nucleic acid claims of Group II at the same time as the polypeptide claims of Group I. In order to perform a thorough search for the polypeptide claims of Group I, the Examiner will want to search the corresponding nucleotide sequences anyway, as otherwise it will not be possible to find documents that disclose related nucleotide sequences but not the corresponding amino acid sequences. And, since the Examiner will be searching the nucleotide sequences anyway, there is no undue burden to examine both groups of claims simultaneously.

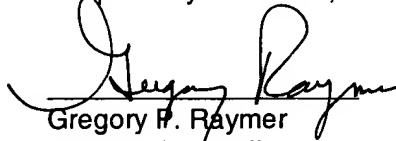
In response to the notice of deficiency with respect to the Sequence Rules, Applicant has hereby amended the specification to use sequence identifiers as required, and is submitting herewith an updated Sequence Listing.

In response to the notice that the claim amendments made in the Preliminary Amendment were not of proper form, Applicant hereby amends claims 11, 12, and 16 in the same manner as was intended by the Preliminary Amendment. No new changes to the claims have been made.

It is believed that the above-indicated claim amendments and remarks place the present case in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is courteously solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,


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